

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

May 16, 2001

LB 543

woman. You young women keep that in mind, you're not going to always be young, and when somebody dumps that old bag, as he calls it, for you, then you're going to be in that condition one of these days. And you're going to be the one that the man says, doesn't understand me and I need that young flesh now. And you're going to know what it feels like. But that's what this society is about. All right, these hypocrites want to say, look what Clinton did and how are the children going to feel? And that was their main argument during the impeachment, the children, the children, the children. Hypocrites around here say the same thing. Then I can point out where the children are literally suffering, not from what Clinton did, but from violence directed against them in the schools, humiliation, embarrassment, degradation, and the people on this floor don't even care. Then they're going to come back and say, these teachers need some money; oh, the poor teachers, shed big old salty crocodile tears for the teachers, but not for the children. The schools exist for the children. Were it not for the children, these teachers would not have a job. But some of these teachers participate in the mistreatment of children. The children don't mean anything to people on this floor, except in certain settings where maybe some judge says, go down there and get some more money for my juvenile program; not to help the children, but to enhance his position and his program. The children are just the raw material needed to advance people's careers and to enrich them, but I don't see it that way. The way I see it is that everybody's child should be viewed by us as our child, if we know how we should treat our child. And we should not be able to turn away when children are mistreated and abused. That's why I spend so much time on this floor fighting against those punitive measures you all want to enact to punish, punish, punish children. But yet you want understanding, you want teachers to be understood. You have so much sympathy for a teacher who is going to say \$33,000 a year as a starting salary is not enough for me to make it on, so here is what I want you to do. I want you to tax those least able to pay the tax. I want you to tax the poorest the hardest. I want you to tax those who make less than I make in order that I can get a higher salary. And you all buy that and you're so sympathetic, so filled with emotion and compassion and concern, and I am filled with something very close to contempt. I know people who work